

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed May 6, 2004. Please reconsider the action in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-63 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 12, 22, 26, 27, 32, 33, 43, 47, 48, 51-54, 58, 60, 62, and 63. have been amended.

Of these amendments, claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 26, 27, 32, 33, 47, 48, 53, and 54 have been amended to clarify their antecedent basis. Claims 51, 52, 58, 60, 62, and 63 have been amended to correct typographical errors.

1. Response to Objections to Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because the sentence "For color imaging, the RIP may add color information to the raster information." has been written twice. One copy of the sentence has been deleted.

2. Response to Objections to Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5). The reference number "252" is mentioned in the specification on page 14, line 24. The reference number "208", which is not mentioned in the description, has been removed from Figure 2 of the drawings. The applicant believes that the objections to the drawings are overcome by these amendments.

3. Response to Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

Claims 5, 26, and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for providing an insufficient antecedent basis for "the printing press" in the claims. Claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 3, which provides the required antecedent basis. Similarly, Claims 26 and 47 have been amended to depend from claims 24 and 45, respectively.

Claims 6-10, 27-31, and 48-52 were rejected on the same grounds, being dependent upon claims 5, 26, and 47, respectively. The applicant submits that the amendments to claims 5, 26, and 47 overcome these rejections.

4. Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 22, 23, 32, 33, 43, 44, 53 and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,459,436 to Kumada, et. al. ("Kumada"). The applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claim 1 recites a method for automatically selecting a rendering intent. In this method, a rendering intent is automatically selected "based on the color characteristics of the device", which are "defined by the device color profile."

Kumada does not disclose a method for automatically selecting a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Kumada discloses automatically selecting a gamut mapping mode using a rendering intent. Col. 9, lines 61-62. In Kumada the rendering intents are "included in the header of a source profile." Col. 9, line 62.

Because Kumada does not disclose automatic selection of rendering intent based on the color characteristics given by a device color profile, the applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, along with independent claims 22 and 43, which recite the same features, are allowable over Kumada, as are their dependent claims.

5. Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

a. Claims 3, 4, 24, 25, 45, and 46

Claims 3, 4, 24, 25, 45, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumada in view of Holub ('909 patent).

As claims 3, 4, 24, 25, 46, and 46 are all dependent claims based on claim 1, 22, or 43, they contain the limitations in those claims. In particular, the claims recite apparatus, method, and computer program for automatically selecting a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device.

As discussed above, Kumada does not disclose, or suggest, automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Kumada discloses automatic

selection of a gamut mapping mode based on a rendering intent “included in the header of a source profile.” Col. 9, line 62.

In addition, the examiner does not suggest that Holub discloses automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. The examiner notes that “Holub discloses that selection of rendering intents (col. 35, lines 30-33) are used with printing presses (col. 1, lines 6-10).”

Kumada and Holub, alone or in combination, also fail to suggest automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Because Kumada and Holub alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the limitations of claims 3, 4, 24, 25, 46, and 46, obviousness of these claims has not been established, and they are allowable.

b. Claims 12, 34, and 55

Claims 13, 34, and 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumada in view of Koguchi ('824 patent).

As claims 13, 34, and 55 are all dependent claims based on claim 1, 22, or 43, they contain the limitations in those claims. In particular, the claims recite apparatus, method, and computer program for automatically selecting a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device.

As discussed above, Kumada does not disclose, or suggest, automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Kumada discloses automatic selection of a gamut mapping mode based on a rendering intent “included in the header of a source profile.” Col. 9, line 62.

In addition, the examiner does not suggest that Koguchi discloses automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. The examiner notes that: “Koguchi discloses that there are selection of the color profile of the input (col. 32, lines 49-53) and the output (col. 32, lines 56-59). Also, that the profiles of the press 130 and the proof printer 134 (col. 30, lines 52-47) are used by the color calibration service center 140 (col. 30, lines 60-62).”

Kumada and Koguchi, alone or in combination, also fail to suggest automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Because Kumada and Koguchi alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the limitations of claims 13, 34, or 55, obviousness of these claims has not been established, and they are allowable.

c. Claims 18-21, 39-42 and 60-63

Claims 18-21, 39-42 and 60-63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumada in view of Spaulding ('540 patent).

As claims 18-21, 39-42 and 60-63 are all dependent claims based on claim 1, 22, or 43, they contain the limitations in those claims. In particular, the claims recite apparatus, method, and computer program for automatically selecting a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device.

As discussed above, Kumada does not disclose, or suggest, automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Kumada discloses automatic selection of a gamut mapping mode based on a rendering intent "included in the header of a source profile." Col. 9, line 62.

In addition, the examiner does not suggest that Koguchi discloses automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. The examiner notes that: "Spaulding discloses that under the conditions when the gamuts are largely contained within one another compared to when they are largely exclusive (col. 2, lines 43-49), that different gamut mapping techniques will be called for (col. 2, lines 56-58)."

Kumada and Spaulding, alone or in combination, also fail to suggest automatic selection of a rendering intent based on the color characteristics of the device. Because Kumada and Spaulding alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the limitations of claims 18-21, 39-42 and 60-63, obviousness of these claims has not been established, and they are allowable.

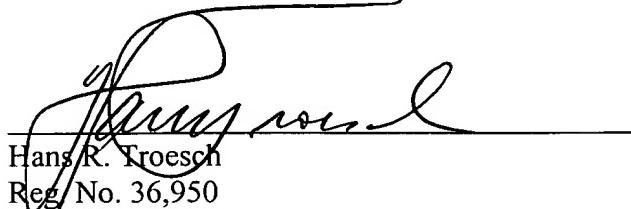
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Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

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